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REMARKS

I. Formalities

Claims 44, 45, 47, 48, 56, 57, 59, and 60 remain in the subject patent application, and each of these claims are amended herein. Claims 43, 46, 49-55, 58, and 61-66 are canceled herein. Claims 1-42 were canceled in an earlier paper. Claims 44, 45, 47, 48, 56, 57, 59, and 60 were amended by incorporating into them limitations from another existing claim. Claims 56, 57, 59, and 60 were further amended in accordance with the examiner's suggestion in order to make clear that those claims are directed to statutory subject matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter is added herein.

II. Response to the 35 U.S.C. §101 Rejections

Claims 55-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 56, 57, 59, and 60 have been amended herein in accordance with the examiner's helpful suggestion, and the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections of those claims have therefore been overcome. The remaining claims that were subject to the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection, i.e., claims 55, 58, 59, and 61-66, have been canceled herein. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections of claims 56, 57, 59, and 60 is therefore respectfully requested.

III. Remarks Directed to the Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 44, 45, 47, 48, 56, 57, 59, and 60 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were identified by the Office Action as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant thanks the examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

As suggested by the Office Action, claims 44, 45, 47, 48, 56, 57, 59, and 60 have each been written in independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 44, 45, 47, 48, 56, 57, 59,

Feb 08, 07 07:25p

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520-868-6681

P. 16

and 60 are all in condition for allowance. No other claims remain in the patent application, all the other pending claims having been canceled herein.

Docket No.: P11287
Application No.: 09/895,347

12

Utility Patent Application

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CONCLUSION

FEB 08 2007

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims.

All fees believed to be due in connection with this Response are submitted herewith. However, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 50-0221.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to further the prosecution of this application, Applicant invites Examiner Tran to call the undersigned attorney at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 8, 2007

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Docket No.: P11287
Application No.: 09/895,347

13

Utility Patent Application